

A **PhD position** is available in the *Ophthalmic Epidemiology and Neuroretinal Imaging Research Unit* at the **Department of Ophthalmology, University of Bonn Medical School, Germany**.

The position will be supervised jointly with the Population Health Section at the German Centre for Neurodegenerative Diseases (Prof. Dr. Dr. Monique Breteler; DZNE) and work as part of a team conducting the ophthalmic part of a large cohort study implemented by the DZNE, the Rhineland-Study (www.rheinlandstudie.de). The main focus of the ophthalmic part of the Rhineland-Study is on the very detailed phenotyping (i.e. deep phenotyping) of retinal ageing, preclinical changes and disease, as well as the comprehensive assessment of risk factors for onset and progression of preclinical and clinical disease. Risk factors assessed will include both genetic and environmental factors. The main interest of the research group is in age-related macular degeneration.

The PhD thesis will focus on the relationship between ageing and age-related macular degeneration and encompass the full breadth of scientific work including the drafting of study protocols, implementation of the study including data collection coordination and supervision, data analysis and publication. Support and mentoring will be available at every step along the way.

The ideal candidate will be a highly motivated, team-oriented graduate with a strong interest in vision research, ophthalmology and epidemiology. Experience with clinical or epidemiological research is advantageous as is a prior degree in health sciences/vision and/or epidemiology. Previous work experience in ophthalmology, optometry, optics or orthoptics is desirable but not essential. Candidates should hold a diploma or a master's degree which qualifies for a PhD degree or a Promotion.

The PhD position will be integrated into the Bonn International Graduate School Clinical and Population Science (www.bigs-clinpopscience.de/) with regular seminars as well as supportive mentoring and other research infrastructure. Training in general scientific methods as well as more specialized methods employed by the research unit will be provided. Active participation in local, national and international conferences is expected. The positions will not take part in any teaching provided at the department. Successful candidates will be awarded a PhD, or alternatively a Promotion (Dr. rer. medic.).

The positions are available now and are for a period of 3 years, with the possibility of an extension. Salary will be according to the German salary scale TV-L E13 (50%). The University of Bonn is an equal opportunity employer.

Questions concerning the project can be addressed to *Prof. Dr. med. Robert Finger*. Applications by email only can be sent to katia.rudorf@ukb.uni-bonn.de

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